

## Today's News - November 19, 2004

MoMA opens tomorrow (finally!). All this week we've presented the pick-of-the-litter from hundreds of reports - those with at least a touch of attitude...there are a few more today. – Controversies begin to swirl around the other gargantuan Manhattan museum complex (are we surprised?). – Much-lauded waterfront projects in Philadelphia just a tad difficult to get to. – Well have to wait until next year to find out who's going to design the European Bank's new home (only one of three entries pictured - but worth a look!). – A Scottish Modernist masterpiece on its last legs? – A call to go back to the drawing board for corporate HQ in Providence. – Foster to design glass envelope for Smithsonian Patent Office Building. – A new school where "form follows function with single-minded force." – Necco factory to go condo. – Firms selected for GSA "First Impressions" program to enhance federal building lobbies and landscapes. – Weekend diversions: Florence Knoll in Philadelphia; Corbusier at Harvard.

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[Oedipus on 53rd Street: Of the many criticisms one can make of the new, grossly expanded and grossly expensive Museum of Modern Art...first and gravest of our disappointments is with the ill-conceived architecture. By Hilton Kramer - Yoshio Taniguchi- New York Observer](#)

[Gentle Giant: The reborn Museum of Modern Art is determinedly low-key—benefiting both the visitor and the art. - Yoshio Taniguchi- New York Magazine](#)

[Bring on the new: It has been a wait, but \[MoMA's\] transformation runs deep: Those hoping to return to a familiar, comfortable Modern will be surprised, even shaken, but perhaps also stirred.- The Economist \(UK\)](#)

[New York MOMA finds new expression in enlightened renovation: Only those who have seen Taniguchi's museum buildings in Japan will be prepared for the remade MOMA's combination of material lavishness and self-effacement, complexity and transparency.- San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[A \\$1B cultural building divide: Modern isn't what it used to be, and neither is the Museum of Modern Art..One can imagine the outcry if anyone in Canada were to propose a \\$1 billion cultural building program. It wouldn't be pretty. By Christopher Hume- Toronto Star](#)

[Fearing That Museum Will Cast Shadow on PATH Hub: Snohetta, which is designing the \[WTC museum complex\], faces an extraordinary challenge: Make a 275,000-square-foot building transparent. By David W. Dunlap - Gehry; alatrava; Libeskind- New York Times](#)

[Barriers remain to public at Water Works and Schuylkill River Park trail: Build it in Philadelphia, and people will come. Just don't count on it being easy to get in. By Inga Saffron- Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

[Three Visions Compete for European Bank's New Home: ...expected to award the much-anticipated commission on Thursday...\[will\] choose a winner by the beginning of next year. - Coop Himmelb\(l\)au; ASP Schweger Assoziierte; 54f architekten/T. R. Hamzah & Yeang \[image\]- New York Times](#)

[Will the church save its icon? St Peter's seminary in Cardross...multi-faceted masterpiece in concrete...has been repeatedly mourned as it declined from a work of high modernist glory in the sixties to a near ruin in the nineties...Gillespie, Kidd & Coia...have become, in their own lifetimes, the new Alexander "Greek" Thompsons.- The Herald \(UK\)](#)

[A win for GTECH: Despite some opposition, the lottery giant gains approval for its \[\\$80-million, modernist glass-and-metal structure\] downtown Providence headquarters. - Spagnolo, Gisness & Associates- Providence Journal](#)

[Smithsonian \[Patent Office Building\] Receives \\$25 Million Gift For Renovation: Foster and Partners selected to design the enclosure... - Art Daily](#)

[The sound of music within concrete walls: Community School of Music and Arts...the distilled essence of modern architecture: a place where form follows function with single-minded force. By John King - Mark Cavagnero Associates \[image\]- San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[Home sweet home: A scent of change as Cambridge Necco factory goes condo...One First St., a \[\\$100 million\] 199-unit condo complex. - Elkus/Manfredi Architects- Boston Herald](#)

[GSA Awards 'First Impressions' Architecture and Landscape Contracts - Elliott + Associates Architects; Huff + Gooden Architects; Pfau Architecture, San Francisco; Joel Sanders Architect; Carol R. Johnson Associates; Rios Clementi Hale Studio- PR Newswire](#)

[Thoroughly modern maven: Architect/designer Florence Knoll Bassett changed the look of corporate America in the '50s. An exhibit at the Philadelphia Museum of Art honors her influence on furnishings and design. - Mies van der Rohe, Eero Saarinen, Harry Bertoia- Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

["Huyghe + Corbusier: Harvard Project" at Harvard University Carpenter Center- AbsoluteArts](#)

[In His Own Words: Luxembourg's New Concert Hall by Christian de Portzamparc \[images\]- ArchNewsNow](#)

[Beauty in Garbage: Naka Incineration Plant...real-time science museum and tourist destination. By Fred A. Bernstein - Yoshio Taniguchi \[images\]- ArchNewsNow](#)

[Archline design: Hope Street Hotel, Liverpool, UK \[images\]](#)

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